

REMARKS

Claims 1-52 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 3, 7, 14, 20, and 47. No new matter is involved. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending claims at least in light of the following remarks.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that at least the amendments to claims 3, 7, 14, and 20 merely correct informalities do not alter the scope of claims 1, 3, 7, 14, and 20.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner LaForgia in the January 12 personal interview. Applicants incorporate a separate record of the substance of the interview into the following remarks.

The Office Action asserts a 37 C.F.R. §1.105 requirement. As agreed during the personal interview, Applicants submit copies of any patent or patent application that names one of the Applicants and which Applicants believe to be material to the patentability of the present claimed invention in the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS), filed herewith.

The Office Action requires that Applicants' specification be amended to include material incorporated by reference. As agreed during the personal interview, Applicants submit copies of JP 6-95302, JP 1863953, JP 1860463, and JP 3-100753 (the material incorporated by reference) in the IDS filed herewith, rather than amending the specification.

The Office Action requires a substitute specification in proper idiomatic English and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.52(a) and 1.52(b). Applicants have reviewed the specification and respectfully submit that it is in sufficiently proper idiomatic English and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.52(a) and 1.52(b).

The Office Action rejects claims 43-45 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as non-enabled. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As discussed during the personal interview, the means for derandomizing recited in claims 43-45 may be, for example, derandomize units 123, 423, and 523 (see e.g., page 22,

line 18; page 24, line 20; page 38, line 21; page 40, line 14; page 41, line 25; page 43, line 19; and Figs. 6, 21, and 23). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

The Office Action rejects claims 3, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 3 and 7 such that they are definite. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

The Office Action rejects claims 14-37 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 14 recites that "the proof data verification device including, in addition to the proof data verification means, fourth storage means for storing the authentication data and fifth storage means for storing the proof data" (emphasis added). Accordingly, there is proper antecedent basis for "the fourth storage means" and "the fifth storage means" in claims 14-37 and 46. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

The Office Action rejects claims 43-45 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As agreed during the personal interview, the term "derandomize" is both defined common use dictionaries (see e.g., The American Heritage College Dictionary 3ed. 355 and 1131) and well-known in art as evidenced by its use in the applied reference. See, for example, col. 18, line 61; col. 19, line 60; and Figs. 20 and 21 of U.S. Patent 5,987,134 to Shin et al. (hereinafter "Shin"). Accordingly, as agreed during the personal interview, the term "derandomize" is commonly defined and thus definite. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-52 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Shin. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1 and 47 to recite, "wherein the command is at least one of reading, writing, and erasing the data stored within the storage medium." Shin does not disclose, teach, or suggest this feature.

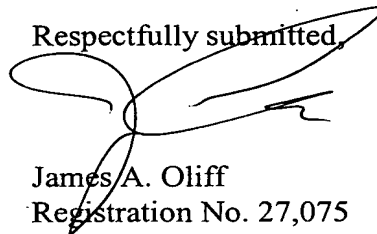
The Office Action alleges that the verification routine 15 is equivalent to Applicants' claimed command. As recognized by the Office Action, the verification routine 15 is sent to the application program to communicate with the response generation routine 17 to allow access to the data stored within the storage medium (col. 5, lines 5-34). The verification routine 15 disclosed in Shin does not read, write, or erase the data stored within the storage medium. Accordingly, Shin cannot reasonably be considered to disclose, teach, or suggest that "the command is at least one of reading, writing, and erasing the data stored within the storage medium," as recited in claims 1 and 47.

Because Shin does not disclose, teach, or suggest Applicants respectfully that "the command is at least one of reading, writing, and erasing the data stored within the storage medium," claims 1 and 47 are patentable over Shin. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-46 and 48-52 are patentable for at least the reasons that claims 1 and 47 are patentable, as well as for the additional features they recite. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

In view of at least the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Applicants earnestly solicit favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-52.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:

Petition for Extension of Time (2 months)
Information Disclosure Statement
PTO-1449

Date: April 5, 2005

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